



Players' newsletter

April 2007

From the General Manager:

2007 has begun with a boom – Symphony under the Stars performing on 24 February to a large crowd on a fine evening in the Malvern Gardens to great applause. Read more about this concert a little later in the newsletter.

This year, Stonnington Symphony will present an exciting season of concerts in the Town Hall Series, and three additional social events that are important fundraisers for the orchestra. If you would like a copy of the 2007 season brochure please contact me in the office and I will post one or more out to you.

So just ahead, on 29 April, is the Pops for Tots concert presented by the City of Stonnington, in which the orchestra will perform a selection of orchestral favourites under the baton of Willem van der Vis. This free concert will be hosted by the renowned comic actor Francis Greenslade, brother of Stonnington Symphony's Treasure and violinist, Diana. This is sure to be a fantastic family event. For more information and to book seats, please call Chapel off Chapel box office on 8290 7000.

As ever, there is a huge amount work involved in keeping the orchestra running smoothly, and much of it relies on the hard work and great ideas of players, supporters, and their friends and families. So if you or someone you know is looking to do some voluntary work, don't forget about Stonnington Symphony. Whether you only have a few hours to offer or want to make a regular commitment to volunteering, please get in touch with me to have a chat about the possibilities.

As you may know, I work for 20 hours per week for the orchestra, and am usually in the office on Tuesday, Thursday and Friday. I would be extremely grateful for any assistance that can be offered.

Having said that, it is also important to recognise the continued wonderful work of members of both committees who invest so much of their passion for the orchestra, expertise in various areas and time into ensuring the success of the Stonnington Symphony. Thank you!

With best wishes,
Celia Welch

Concert review – *Symphony under the Stars*

7pm Saturday 24 February 2007, Malvern Gardens

This was a fine performance by the Stonnington Symphony. Pat Miller, Conductor, worked with the committee to program entertaining and interesting repertoire with an emphasis on accessible sounds even if the names might be unknown to a non-specialist classical music audience. The result was a delightful evening of varied music, with opportunities for all sections of the orchestra to play featured lines.

Peter Burch hosted the evening once again, delighting the audience with interesting tidbits of information throughout the evening.

Anecdotal feedback from audience and players was that this was perhaps the most successful program Stonnington Symphony has presented. David Laity, Principal Clarinet and soloist, performed exceptionally well, with all sections of the orchestra producing a wonderful tone, well-supported by the Sound Technicians.

An audience of approximately 2000 attended, which included many families with young children as well as regular Stonnington Symphony supporters, and a significant number of elderly people. Stonnington Community Care brought a large group. Thankfully, the weather was fine.

Mayor John Chandler spoke at the start of the concert. Councillors Judy Hindle and Anne O'Shea also attended, and were most complimentary of the event and the orchestra.

Congratulations to all on a fantastic concert. Special thanks also to Mark Roper and Helen Preston from the City of Stonnington whose work was integral to the success of the event.

Thank you to our supporters on 24 February 2007

Jen Kirsner – information tent

Mary Clements, Liz Ede, Sascha Jeske & Heather Stephens – raffle ticket sales

Sascha Jeske – volunteer co-ordinator

Nadine Fung, Des Welch, Anna Welch & Martin

Welch – handing out programs & brochures

Dave Newington and James Kirsner – Armadale Cellars wine tent sales

John Wise – for percussion equipment hire

Gabby Walters – Assistant Stage Manager

Bernard Holkner and 3MBS – recording the concert

Michael Taylor – Production Assistant

Armadale Cellars – wine tent

Stonnington Symphony New Bank Account Details

Please note that as of 1 January 2007 Stonnington Symphony has changed bank accounts – see details below on membership form.

The Treasurer, Diana Greenslade, and General Manager, Celia Welch, have secured a better banking arrangement with Westpac which sees the orchestra gaining interest on the Development Fund.

Upcoming Performance & Rehearsal Schedules
All at Malvern Town Hall (MTH)

Pops for Tots

Sunday 29 April 2007, 1pm & 3pm, Malvern Town Hall
Conductor – Willem Van der Vis
MC – Francis Greenslade

Repertoire is as follows: Rodeo from Hoe Down, Can-Can from La Vie Parisienne, and excerpts from the Nutcracker Suite No.1, Pictures at an Exhibition, and Elgar's Wand of Youth Suite No.1.

Tues 17 April	7.30-10.30pm	MTH
Thur 26 April	7.30-10.30pm	MTH
Sun 29 April	am balance	MTH
Sun 29 April	perfs at 1pm & 3pm	MTH

The Maestro at 80: John Hopkins 80th

Birthdays concert

Sunday 27 May, 2.30pm

Conductor – John Hopkins

Solo violin – Cameron Hill

NB – Benjamin Northey will take some rehearsals

Vaughan Williams – Fantasia on a theme by Tho. Tallis
Saint-Saens – Violin Concerto No. 3 in Bb
Sarah Hopkins – Past Life Melodies
Elgar – Enigma Variations

Tues 24 April	7.30-10.30pm	MTH
Tues 1 May	7.30-10.30pm	MTH
Tues 8 May	7.30-10.30pm	MTH
Tues 15 May	7.30-10.30pm	MTH
Tues 22 May	7.30-10.30pm	MTH
Thur 24 May	7.30-10.30pm	MTH
Sun 27 May	11am, 2.30pm perf	MTH

Please note: the rehearsal schedule will be posted on the website when it is available. It will be subject to change as the rehearsals progress.

IMPORTANT CONTACTS: Section Convenors

Violins (A-K)	Dorothy Connor
Violins (L-Z)	Irene Jordan
Viola	Matt Gough
Cello	Julia Cianci
Bass	Bronwyn Welch(for May concert) SSO office (for Pops for Tots)
Flute	Aydin Abdullah
Clarinet	David Laity
Oboe	Penny Dawe
Bassoon	Libby McGrath
Horn	Rob Harry
Brass	Matthew Ayres
Percussion	Christine Flood
Librarian	Alan Miceli

The City of Stonnington
is proud to sponsor
Stonnington Symphony



IMPORTANT:

*if you wish to play in the next concert, you **MUST** contact your convenor no later than **2 weeks** before the first rehearsal.*

Practice before the first rehearsal

If you wish to practice your part prior to the first rehearsal, please speak to your section convenor.

REMINDER
FUNDRAISER EVENT

Journeys in music:
John Hopkins and Benjamin Northey
in conversation
With host Peter Burch

Date – Sunday 13 May, 5pm

Venue – The Parlour, Sacre Coeur school,
146 Burke Rd, Glen Iris

Limited places available so book early

Hear one of Australia's most distinguished conductors, Professor John Hopkins, in discussion with Benjamin Northey, an exciting young conductor and Stonnington Symphony's new Artistic Director. Join host Peter Burch for this unique opportunity to learn more about the lives and careers of these fine Melbourne maestros.

Great door prizes to be won
including Musica Viva tickets

Tickets – \$25 (includes refreshments)

*All proceeds benefit Stonnington Symphony's Artistic Development Fund

To reserve your place at this exclusive event, please contact Celia on 9510 5257 or email admin@stonningtonsymphony.org.au

2006-07 Orchestra committees

Committee of Management

President	Jen Kirsner
Vice President	Julia Cianci
Treasurer	Diana Greenslade
Secretary	Margaret Jenkinson
Ordinary Members	Kenny Cheung David Laity Catriona Russell

Program Planning Sub-Committee:

Benjamin Northey, Artistic Director	
Jenny Johnson, Convenor	
Aydin Abdullah	Julia Cianci
Dorothy Connor	Rob Harry

To contact any of the above committee members, please get in touch with Celia in the office via phone on 9510 5257, fax 9525 2611, email admin@stonningtonsymphony.org.au or post PO Box 476, Prahran VIC 3181